GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4529
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2000
ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR THE COAL MINES
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have information regarding the procurement/acquisition of land from the common public for the coal mines in Neyveli;

(b) if so, the details of land procured or acquired by Neyveli Lignite Corporation during the last two decades;

(c) whether the Government have any plan to compensate the families whose lands have been acquired;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total area of the various mines in the Neyveli and the production from each mine during the last three years, year-wise; and

(f) the measures taken by the Government to enhance the production and utility of Lignite as well as for the conservation of the available Lignite resources in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

a) & b) Yes Sir. 3438.31.0 hectares of land have been acquired by Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.(NLC) in the last two decades.

c) & d) Yes Sir. Compensation for acquired lands are paid as per the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act. Under the Act, monetary compensation to the affected families are paid as fixed by the competent authority for different categories of land surrendered. Apart from this, NLC has anapproved rehabilitation action plan comprising of a physical resettlement package for those surrendering houses and an economic rehabilitation package comprising of self employment training, temporary employment, contract work etc. for land oustees.

e) The total area of land acquired for various Mines in Neyveli from 1960 and upto 30.6.2000 are given below:-

Area covered by Mine-I	3229.11.0 hectares
Area covered by Mine-II	2997.30.0 hectares
Total	6276.41.0 hectares

Lignite production details (in Lakh Tonnes) for the last three years is as under:-

Year	Mine-I	Mine-II
1997-98	75.01	106.07
1998-99	75.42	106.26
1999-00	69.01	106.50

f) NLC is the first enterprise in the country to mine lignite and utilise it for power generation. NLC has undertaken expansion of Mine-I project to raise production from 6.5 Million Tonnes to 10.5 Million Tonnes and will use it for power generation. NLC is also developing a new mine of 3 Million Tonnes capacity at Neyveli for power generation. Further NLC is planning to expandcapacity of Mine-II by 4 Million Tonnes and for opening of a new mine of 12 Million Tonnes capacity. Lignite is also being mined in Rajasthan and Gujarat for a variety of uses including power generation. Further, Central Government promotes exploration oflignite deposits in the country in order to build up comprehensive data-base about viable deposits of lignite for future exploitation. Lignite is not as popular as coal as a fuel. The government is striving to make optimal use of lignite and conservation by scrutinising the related mine plan submitted to the central government for approval before any new mine is opened.